

WITH RICHARDSON AND GRIFFITH, AS OWNERS, WASHINGTON IS NO LONGER A MINOR CLUB

GRIFFITH, SALESMAN, MAJOR LEAGUER IN NEW BASEBALL ROLE

William M. Richardson, Broker and Business Man, Capitulates When Silver Fox of Diamond Insists Washington Club Is Tame and Will Not Fade

By ROBERT W. MAXWELL Sports Editor, Evening Public Ledger Copyright, 1919, by Public Ledger Co.

A STOCKY, gray-haired, immaculately dressed person walked into the office of W. M. Richardson in the Bourse Building six weeks ago. Hat in hand, he strode to the desk and said abruptly:

"Your name Richardson? Mine's Griffith. Want to buy a ball club?" Mr. Richardson looked up in surprise. "Do I want to buy a WHAT?" he gasped.

"A ball club," replied the visitor. "A regular A-number-one, first-class big league ball club, situated in Washington, D. C. Guaranteed not to fade and is so gentle it will eat out of your hand. Heard you always were willing to investigate a good business proposition, and I have one. Do you care to listen to the details?"

The startling statement almost took the breath out of Mr. Richardson, but after looking into the shrewd, piercing gray eyes of his caller, nodded for him to continue.

In this manner, Clarke Griffith, manager of the Washington American League baseball club, became acquainted with a new business partner. He told how Ben Minor, then president of the club, was anxious to retire and his stock was for sale. He produced figures, and when they were exhausted, handed out some more figures. At the end, Mr. Richardson, much impressed by Griffith's monologue, said he would go to Washington and take a look. He did, and then ordered Griffith to get busy.

"I want a controlling interest in the ball club," he said. "Go ahead and buy all of the stock you can lay your hands on, and when you have control—which means more than 50 per cent—let me know and I will send you a check. But I MUST have a controlling interest."

From that time, Clark Griffith, the Silver Fox of the diamond, kept on the job, carried out instructions to the letter, and last Saturday night announced to the world that he had a majority of the stock and a new owner would be in the capital of our nation. The news came as a big surprise, for it was entirely unexpected and everybody began to ask: "Who is this guy Richardson?"

THE work had been done so quietly and so few were in on the secret that even Mr. Richardson's closest friends did not have the remotest idea that he was the mysterious owner they were reading about.

Mr. Richardson, Real Business Man

WILLIAM M. RICHARDSON was in his office when I called yesterday. He was in his shirt sleeves, his desk was littered with piles of correspondence—mostly cablegrams—and he had every appearance of an exceedingly busy man. Being president of the Philadelphia Export Co. and sole owner of Richardson Bros., commission merchants, is no soft job, but the president and owner courteously consented to give us a few moments of his time and answer all our questions.

"Yes," he said, "I suppose I am in control of the Washington American League baseball club, although I have not been notified officially as yet. I told Clark Griffith to go out and buy the club, and as soon as this was done announce it in the newspapers. In a day or so I expect to hear all about it."

Mr. Richardson paused to answer a phone call in regard to wheat or oats or something. He wasted no words and showed by his very action he was a real business man. Then he deciphered a couple of cablegrams and resumed the subject of baseball.

"I want you to understand," he continued, "that I am in baseball for business purposes only. I saw a chance to make what I believe a good investment and am regarding it as such. I have no idea of trying to run the playing end of the game. Clark Griffith will have charge of that, but I will say right here that he will be given free rein and allowed to go the limit in purchasing ball players. The only way to make money is to put a winning team on the field and Griffith has orders to go out and get the men he desires."

"However, I will be satisfied to go along for three or four years and break even. I do not expect quick returns on the investment, but in time I am sure it will be a valuable proposition. Baseball should be very popular in Washington, and I will do all I can to make it so. The public must be considered first, last and all the time. The people who go out to see the games will not be regarded as customers, but as guests. They will be courteously treated, there will be no advance in prices for special occasions, and everything will be made as pleasant as possible.

"But, please remember I am not going to Washington to tell them how to run their business. If I can suggest anything I shall be happy to do so, and shall be there only as a business adviser.

"PERHAPS you think it strange that I should tell Mr. Griffith to buy the stock and attend to all of the details instead of doing it myself. Well, that is the way we do business on the Bourse. I have agents working for me all of the time and never deal direct with a purchaser of my line of goods. It was the same in the Washington deal and to date I have not met Mr. Minor, the retiring president."

Griffith May Be President-Manager

"NOW that you are in the league," I said, "what side will you take in the Johnson fuss? Are you for or against him?"

"At present," replied Mr. Richardson, squaring his firm, resolute chin, "I am trailing along with President Johnson. Of course, it is my privilege to change my mind, but from what I know of Mr. Johnson and the present situation, I feel sure he is in the right. Anyway, he must be right or the majority would not be with him."

"How about the Mays case?"

"Do you mean Mays or maize?" interrogated the president-owner. "You know, we deal in maize more than anything else in this office, and I am qualified to talk about it. As for Mays, the pitcher, I don't know much about him, but believe Mr. Johnson did the right thing in suspending him."

"What do you intend to do with the club? Will you be president?"

"Not a bit of it," was the quick reply. "There will be a meeting of the directors in Washington next Saturday, and I will ask Mr. Griffith to take the position. If I can convince him, he will be the president-manager of the Washington club. He lives in Washington, knows the Washington public and is the man to be in charge. As I said before, I will be a business adviser. I have enough work right here in Philadelphia without going out of town to look for more.

"Mr. Griffith can handle the ball club as well, if not better than any other person I know, and he will be in complete charge. John McGraw runs the New York club and is highly successful. Griffith will do the same thing for me.

"WE NEED a few players to strengthen the club, and Griffith will get them between now and the time we leave for the southern training camp. Expense means nothing when one realizes it takes an outlay of money to make money. We will go the limit."

Success Always Crowns Efforts

FRIENDS of Mr. Richardson were busy congratulating him on the Bourse yesterday. Everybody predicted success, not because of a friendly feeling, but because success usually crowns his efforts.

"The fans in Washington will get a square deal," said one. "Richardson plays the game only one way—with absolute fairness and squareness. He will be very popular down there."

"There is no reason why Mr. Richardson should not be popular. He is full of personality, a wonderful mixer and has a faculty of making friends and holding them. He knows human nature and gained his knowledge after twenty-eight years in the grain business.

HE STARTED as an errand boy at the age of 13-25-26 and worked his way to the top. He now is forty-two years old, an athlete and a hard worker. He can't help but succeed in his new venture.

WONDER WHAT A MAN WINDOW SHOPPING THINKS ABOUT

Comic strip with four panels of a man window shopping. Text in panels: 'I WISH I HAD SOME IDEA AS TO WHAT ALICE WANTS... I HATE TO GO IN A STORE UNLESS I KNOW WHAT I WANT... THERE'S A STUNNING SHOPPING BAG BUT HOLY CAT WHAT A PRICE!... A NECKLACE! I HEARD HER RAVING OVER ONE SOMETHING LIKE THAT ONE TIME... I'LL JUST KEEP THE NECKLACE IDEA IN MIND UNTIL I THINK OF SOMETHING BETTER... I WISH I HAD THE NERVE TO GO IN AND BUY SOME SILK STOCKINGS... I'D MAKE A BIG HIT WITH HER IF I'D GET SOME NICE SILK UNDER-ER LINGERIE... I'LL LOOK AT A FEW MORE WINDOWS FIRST AND IF I DON'T SEE ANYTHING I'LL GIVE HER A CHECK... GERMANTOWN WILL SELECT OWN TEAM... SCRAPS ABOUT SCRAPPERS... HARVARD RENEWS FOOTBALL DRILLS... HARVARD DECLINES... CRIMSON WILL NOT PLAY WASHINGTON ON WESTERN TRIP... WILDE MATCHED WITH TREMAINE... KRAMER EASY FOR HARRY GREB... POWELL WOUND MERION LEADER... FITZSIMMONS' SON WINS FIRST FIGHT... BAT LEONARD K. O.'S NOBLE... SHANTUNG SHIRTS... BASHARACK'S QUALITY SHIRTS... THE LARGEST HABERDASHERS IN THE STATE... GUILFORD'S... THE LARGEST EXCLUSIVE HABERDASHERS IN THE STATE... GOLFERS WILL FIND DAVE HERRON HARD TO TOSS FROM TOP... YOUTHFUL CHAMPION OF LINKS HAS NERVE, CONFIDENCE AND ABILITY TO DEFEND TITLE—POSSESSES FACULTY OF CONCENTRATION ON STROKES... UPON what basis, then, should he be lifted up with Evans, Ouimet, Gardner and Jones? THROUGH the Tournament... HERRON started the tournament with a wonderful mental attitude... HE merely went plugging his way along, playing fine golf from the first day out... HERRON failed to turn in a single erratic round... WHEN he reached the final round against Bobby Jones he was at the top of his game—confident in the use of every club, with the putting touch as sure and as deadly as the Travis-Travers brand of other years.

GERMANTOWN WILL SELECT OWN TEAM

Order Six Men to Report at Each Game and Say Others Can Be Suspended

PLAY NORTH PHILS TONIGHT

EASTERN LEAGUE STANDING... SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK... President Schaefer, of the Eastern Basketball League, is evidently due to meet some little resistance in his proposed threat to bar any player registered in the Eastern League from further competition in that basketball organization if they play any more games in the Pennsylvania State League.

Whether the Interstate and New York State Leagues are in the order is not clear, but players of the Eastern League are performing in both. It has been a source of much discontent, but in years back, when the Eastern League was the whole show, nothing was done in the matter, and it appears ridiculous to come through with such a proposal when basketball players are hard to find without securing outside assistance.

Will Play Any Man... Dave Bennis, Army Fitzgerald and Frank Poth, representing part of the Germantown management, held a conference last night at the Bourse.

"The Germantown club abides by all the rules of the Eastern League. We have eight men listed, but we do not intend to play all of us or to create a new team on hand at every game, if for financial reasons alone.

"For instance, this evening we have notified Meehan and Holman, out-of-towners, to be present, and these, with Frankie, Black, Simendinger and Powell, will compose the line-up that will play North Philadelphia. The next night at Camden we have notified Schmeckel, Eyfe and Meehan to report.

"Schmeckel and Eyfe may be playing elsewhere tonight for all we know, and if they are barred when they appear at Camden on Wednesday there will be no game as far as Germantown is concerned.

"The Germantown club represents an expenditure in round figures for the season of approximately \$10,000, and we intend having something to say as to how the money that will be spent. We have our fans to please and that we intend to do."

North Phils Lose... The North Phillies lost another hard game last night to De Neri at Moose Hall, but hope to do better when they meet Germantown at Chew street and Chelton avenue this evening.

Brown Shades Jackson... Trenton, N. J., Dec. 16.—In a slow bout before the Trenton A. C. last night Jimmy Brown, a local light-weight, won by a knockout over Jimmy Jackson of Philadelphia.

Kensington Kennel Club Election... The annual general meeting of the Kensington Kennel Club was held in Piersen's Hall, Kensington street, and Clearfield street.

SCRAPS ABOUT SCRAPPERS

THIS is fight night at the Auditorium A. A. Promoter Marcus Williams announces that there is a double wind-up on the program, featuring Larry Hansen vs. Young Robideau and Sergeant Ray Smith vs. K. O. Samson.

Joe Benjamin and Joe Welling will exhibit in the last bout at the all-star show at the Olympia Christmas afternoon. Bill Freeman and Salter Petrovsky clash in the semifinal. Four other battles will be on the holiday matinee program.

Kid Williams hopes to make it interesting for the boys shortly. The former baniam champion has just announced in what class he will battle next, it is very doubtful if he ever will make the bantam limit again.

Johnny Kibane and Young Chaney will meet in Newark on the evening of January 10. The fight was set back one week. Willie Jackson and Joe Benjamin also battle on the same card. It is rumored that Jackson will not be able to box.

New Haven promoters again are breaking into print. First they came out and announced that they had a fight between the Dempsey-Carpenter fight. Now they want to feature Jim Wilde and Jack Sharkey in a twenty-round fray to a decision on January 11. Wilde's only chance to fight in the East before the middle of February is to get his release from the International Sporting Club. Sharkey was at the Olympia last night.

Eddie Fitzsimmons and Young Joe Borzell will be in the fourth bout at the Olympia on Christmas. Other holiday attractions at the South Broad street arena follow: Fitz vs. Young Sacco, Jimmy Murphy vs. Johnny Clinton, and Johnny Reiser vs. Joe Stanley.

The National has not completed its show for Saturday night. Richie Mitchell will be in the wind-up bout. Jimmy Moore also is working on his Christmas show, which will be announced in a few days.

Harry Greb and Clay Turner, light heavyweights, will be the wind-up attraction at the Olympia on Monday night. Andy Schmeckel and Spike McFadden battle in the semifinal. The other bouts follow: Joe Nelson vs. Bobby McLean, Marty Kane vs. Ray O'Malley and Al Moore vs. Jimmy Terry.

Commissioner John Smith, of Atlantic City, was at the Olympia last night. He throned on his seat by Bobby Guinness.

Most Healthful Xmas Gift... Phila. Jack O'Brien's \$15 3 Mths. Boxing Course... Auditorium A. A. Sixth and Brown Tuesday Eve., Dec. 16... LARRY HANSEN vs. G. ROBIDEAU SERGT. RAY SMITH vs. K. O. SAMSON 3 Other Star Bouts

AMERICA A. C. Burns & Feener, Mgrs. Kensington Ave. and Somerset St. FRIPAY EVENS, 8:00 P. M. ANDY BURNS vs. WILLIE DAVIS FOUR OTHER STAR BOUTS

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THE SIGN of the "Proof" scarf... 1038 Market Street 1225 Market Street 1305 Market Street 1518 Market Street 1430 Chestnut Street 27 South 15th Street 1416 South Penn Sq. Broad & Girard Aves. 3647 Woodland Ave. 2436 N. Front Street

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HARVARD RENEWS FOOTBALL DRILLS

Team Will Leave Saturday for New Year's Day Game on Coast

TRY OUT OREGON'S PLAYS

Cambridge, Mass., Dec. 16.—Harvard's football team has begun a week of intensive training preparatory to leaving next Saturday for its New Year's Day game with the University of Oregon team at Pasadena, Calif.

Practice, which stopped prior to the Yale game on November 22, was resumed in a light form last Thursday after final acceptance of the western challenge, but considerable information concerning the Oregonians' style of play which has been received made it possible for Coach Robert T. Fisher to prepare defenses for the best rival formations expected.

Arthur Clark, one of the Harvard guards, has announced that he would not take the trip with the team, upon advice of his physician. He said that he had played through the season against the wishes of his physician and his family, who considered that a previous injury to his back made it dangerous for him to participate in football games.

Fitzsimmons' Son Wins First Fight... Newark, N. J., Dec. 16.—Young Bob Fitzsimmons, son of the former world's heavyweight boxing champion, in his first professional contest outboxed Ed Kinley, of Newark, in an eight-round bout here tonight. Fitzsimmons weighed 170 pounds and Kinley 164.

Bat Leonard K. O.'s Noble... Bridgeport, Conn., Dec. 16.—Battling Leonard, of Philadelphia, made a big hit with New England fans followers last night when he knocked out Sammy Noble in the seventh round.

Now that the treaty is (fortunately or unfortunately) Lodged, let's talk of Shantung Shirts... Distinctive and fashionable brown in color: the most inexpensive, the most durable, the most handsome of all silk shirts. Buy a quarter-dozen for Christmas season. They're \$5.65 apiece. And Neckwear!

Basharack's Quality Shirts... 1114 Chestnut Street 920 Chestnut—37 S. 13th—52d & Chestnut

The Largest Haberdashers in the State... are ready to save you time and money in the purchase of the gifts for the "men of the house."

Neckwear 65c to 5.00 Silk Shirts 8.50 to 15.00 Madras Shirts 2.50 to 6.00 Mufflers 1.00 to 15.00 Gloves 1.50 to 6.00 Silver Belt Buckles 2.00 to 10.00 All Gifts Handsomely Boxed

Guilford's... All Ten Stores Open Evenings

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GOLFERS WILL FIND DAVE HERRON HARD TO TOSS FROM TOP

Youthful Champion of Links Has Nerve, Confidence and Ability to Defend Title—Possesses Faculty of Concentration on Strokes

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Penshots of 1919 Champions

No. 3—Davison Herron

When Evans, from his lofty height, Unfurled his masher on the air— When Ouimet gave the ball a smite And made the gaping duffers stare— Where experts congregate and rave, How many said: "Look out for Dave!"

His rotund form was overlooked, And yet, emerging from the rut, He rarely ever slipped or hooked And almost never missed a putt; And I should say that's nearly all You have to do to get the call.

Up From the Mists

WHEN the amateur golf championship for 1919 opened over the very fine Oakmont course there were four favorites placed above the field. These four men were Chick Evans, Francis Ouimet, Bobby Jones and Robert A. Gardner. Dave Herron was given some consideration, because it was known that he played Oakmont well, but those who had looked over his past championship record refused to take him very seriously. This was a logical deduction. In 1915 at Detroit, his first start, Herron had been dropped in his first match. In 1916, at Merion, he had failed to qualify among the thirty-two select.

UPON what basis, then, should he be lifted up with Evans, Ouimet, Gardner and Jones?

Through the Tournament

HERRON started the tournament with a wonderful mental attitude. He did not look forward to winning, nor did he become overanxious or depressed. He began playing as if each round was merely a friendly battle for a ball in a hole. He showed no trace of elation when he holed a good putt nor any sign of annoyance when he missed a short one. He merely went plugging his way along, playing fine golf from the first day out.

Herron failed to turn in a single erratic round. His steadiness was looked to brilliant dashes—such as the 35 going out he slipped to Thompson, of Canada, in a driving run.

When he reached the final round against Bobby Jones he was at the top of his game—confident in the use of every club, with the putting touch as sure and as deadly as the Travis-Travers brand of other years.



"Take it from me—Here's a regular smoke!" Next time you step up to the counter, name your favorite shape or size—and then add: "And be sure it's a Sinbad"

The cigar that satisfies... You'll have a real smoke, fellows—sure thing! For this same Sinbad Cigar is an all-hand-made product, smooth-smoking, even-burning, fine-flavored, mellow, mild—Oh! Just about everything I'll say it is!

Take your choice: Exceptionals—15c Club Perfecto—2 for 25c Blunt—2 for 25c Perfecto—10c straight Or, better yet—buy 'em by the box and give your friends a treat, when they drop in for that little game.

At all good dealers—hotels—cigar stands—clubs! We're ready to supply any good dealer of short notice. Just say the word!

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